

Serial No.: 09/873,416

REMARKS

Claims 1-42, as amended, remain herein.

Applicants appreciate the statements in the Office Action that claims 10-17, 28-36, 39 and 42 are allowed and that claims 1-9, 18-27, 37, 38, 40 and 41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the independent claim(s) from which they depend.

1. Claims 1 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and claims 1-9, 18-27, 37, 38, 40 and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, because, allegedly, the specification allegedly does not disclose a Q-switch determining first and second pause periods.

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended as follows:

Q switch means ~~for determining first and second pause periods located between said output mirror and reflector mirror,~~ for turning on and off the laser oscillation by said output mirror, reflector mirror and gain medium, said Q switch means ~~also for turning on laser oscillation during the a first pause period before generation of the laser pulse train, and for turning off the laser oscillation during the second pause period before generation of the laser pulse train;~~

Serial No.: 09/873,416

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

All claims 1-42 are now proper in form and patentably distinguished over all grounds of rejection cited in the Office Action. Accordingly, allowance of all claims 1-42 is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by the applicants would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone applicants' undersigned representatives.

Respectfully submitted,


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CAW:RNW/mhs

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